

**House Study Bill 605 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE  
ON EDUCATION BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON WHEELER)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to extracurricular interscholastic athletic  
2 activities and including applicability provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.165, subsection 1, Code 2024, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *c.* If the board requires that a coach  
4 complete training on concussions and brain injuries as provided  
5 in section 280.13C as a condition of renewal of a coaching  
6 authorization, the board shall require completion of such  
7 training no more frequently than once every two years.

8 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **280.13D Requirements for**  
9 **extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or**  
10 **competitions.**

11 1. For purposes of this section, unless the context  
12 otherwise requires:

13 *a.* "*Department*" means the department of education.

14 *b.* "*Organization*" means the same as defined in section  
15 280.13.

16 2. As a condition of registration with the department under  
17 section 280.13, an organization that sponsors extracurricular  
18 interscholastic athletic contests or competitions for male  
19 students shall comply with all of the following:

20 *a.* The organization shall not use any factor relating to  
21 socioeconomic status when establishing or revising divisions,  
22 classifications, or conferences for any sport.

23 *b.* The organization shall accept cash as a form of payment  
24 for entry into any extracurricular interscholastic athletic  
25 contest or competition sponsored by the organization.

26 *c.* The organization shall not require that tickets for an  
27 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or competition  
28 that is a playoff be purchased online or through other  
29 electronic means.

30 *d.* The organization shall schedule athletic seasons for the  
31 following sports as follows:

32 (1) The athletic season for baseball shall be governed by  
33 all of the following:

34 (a) The season shall begin on the same date as the athletic  
35 season for softball, as established by an organization that

1 sponsors extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or  
2 competitions for female students.

3 (b) The season shall last at least seven weeks before any  
4 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or competition  
5 that is a playoff occurs.

6 (c) The season must be permitted to include up to forty  
7 games per team, as determined by the team.

8 (2) The athletic season for soccer shall conclude before  
9 Memorial Day.

10 e. Before the organization implements a change to the  
11 starting or ending date of more than thirty days for the  
12 athletic seasons of baseball, soccer, golf, tennis, or track  
13 and field, the organization shall provide an electronic survey  
14 to each head coach and assistant coach for each athletic team  
15 that would be affected by the change. The survey shall include  
16 a question on whether or not the coach approves of the proposed  
17 change, which shall be limited to the options of providing  
18 an affirmative or negative response. The survey may include  
19 additional questions at the discretion of the organization.  
20 Unless at least sixty percent of the coaches respond to  
21 the survey, and sixty percent of the respondents provide an  
22 affirmative answer to the question required by this paragraph,  
23 the change shall not be implemented. The organization shall  
24 provide all responses to the survey to the department, which  
25 shall verify compliance with this paragraph.

26 3. The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to  
27 administer this section.

28 Sec. 3. APPLICABILITY. Section 280.13D, as enacted by this  
29 Act, applies to athletic seasons beginning on or after the  
30 effective date of this Act.

31 EXPLANATION

32 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
33 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

34 This bill relates to extracurricular interscholastic  
35 athletic activities.

1 The bill provides that if the board of educational examiners  
2 requires that a coach complete training on concussions  
3 and brain injuries as a condition of renewal of a coaching  
4 authorization, the board shall require completion of such  
5 training no more frequently than once every two years.

6 The bill establishes requirements for an organization that  
7 sponsors extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or  
8 competitions for male students ("organization") as a condition  
9 of registration with the department of education.

10 The bill prohibits the organization from using any factor  
11 relating to socioeconomic status when establishing or revising  
12 divisions, classifications, or conferences for any sport.

13 The bill requires the organization to accept cash as a form  
14 of payment for entry into any extracurricular interscholastic  
15 athletic contest or competition sponsored by the organization.  
16 The bill prohibits an organization from requiring that tickets  
17 for an extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or  
18 competition that is a playoff be purchased online or through  
19 other electronic means.

20 The bill provides requirements for scheduling athletic  
21 seasons for baseball and soccer.

22 The bill establishes procedures for the organization to  
23 survey head coaches and assistant coaches before implementing  
24 a change to the starting or ending date of more than 30 days  
25 for the athletic seasons of baseball, soccer, golf, tennis,  
26 or track and field. The change shall only be implemented if  
27 at least 60 percent of the coaches respond to the survey, and  
28 60 percent of the respondents approve of the change. The  
29 organization shall provide all responses to the survey to the  
30 department of education, which shall verify compliance with the  
31 survey requirements.

32 The provisions of the bill other than those relating to  
33 training on concussions and brain injuries apply to athletic  
34 seasons beginning on or after the effective date of the bill.